

## FARMINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Tuesday, February 3, 2015

Chairman Ryan Morgan called the meeting to order at 6:35 P.M. with the following members present: Andrew Buckland, Joshua Bell, Stephan Bunker and Michael Fogg. Town Manager Richard Davis, Town Secretary Linda Grant, Police Chief Jack Peck, Fire Rescue Chief Terry Bell and Captain Tim Hardy, Code Enforcement Officer Steve Kaiser, Parks and Recreation Director Steve Shible, Planning Board Chairman Clayton King, Planning Board and Budget Committee member Matthew Smith, Channel 11, and members of the press and public were also in attendance.

### **ITEM 1: Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

Chairman Ryan Morgan led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

### **ITEM 2: To Hold a Public Hearing on a Proposed Fire and Life Safety Ordinance**

Chairman Ryan Morgan opened the Public Hearing under Item 2 at 6:37 P.M.

Town Manager Richard Davis, Code Enforcement Officer Steve Kaiser, Fire Rescue Chief Terry Bell, and Fire Rescue Captain Tim Hardy reviewed the draft Ordinance and its intended purpose. In addition to the Selectmen, questions, comments and suggestions were heard from Planning Board Chairman Clayton King and Attorney Paul Mills. Mr. Davis stated that the next step will be to make the proposed modifications to this proposed Ordinance and place it on the Town Meeting Warrant for further discussion and vote.

Chairman Ryan Morgan closed the Public Hearing under Item 2 at 6:58 P.M.

Further clarification of NFPA1, NFPA101, and Maine Revised Statutes 25, 2353A and 2354 was given.

### **ITEM 3: To Hold a Public Hearing on a Proposed Building Permit Ordinance**

Chairman Ryan Morgan opened the Public Hearing under Item 2 at 7:00 P.M.

Town Manager Richard Davis and Code Enforcement Officer Steve Kaiser reviewed the proposed Ordinance and the modifications that were made as a result of a discussion by the Selectmen at a previous meeting. Discussion also included the Building Notification Ordinance that is currently in effect, enforcement of a Building Permit vs. Building Notification Ordinance, and MUBEC certification. In addition to the Selectmen,



**ITEM 4: To Review and Make Recommendations on the Following Proposed 2015 Departmental Budgets: (Cont.)**

**C) General Assistance**

**Stephan Bunker moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$25,000 for the 2015 General Assistance budget, which is an increase over 2014 of \$2,000, or 8.70%; Joshua Bell seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**D) Assessing**

**Joshua Bell moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$79,500 for the 2015 Assessing budget, which is a decrease from 2014 of \$47,104, or -37.21%; Stephan Bunker seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**E) Code Enforcement**

**Stephan Bunker moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$151,166 for the 2015 Code Enforcement budget, which is a decrease from 2014 of \$1,364, or -0.89%; Michael Fogg seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**F) Police**

Michael Fogg commended the Police Dept. for providing the services that they do for the amount budgeted. Joshua Bell asked for clarification of vehicle mileage upon trade of the vehicle.

**Michael Fogg moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$1,245,337 for the 2015 Police budget, which is an increase over 2014 of \$51,772, or 4.34%; Andrew Buckland seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 3 ABSTAINED 1 OPPOSED 1 MOTION CARRIED**  
**(Stephan Bunker) (Joshua Bell)**

**G) Fire Rescue**

Michael Fogg generated a discussion regarding the proposed budget amount remaining the same but moving \$10,640 to the Reserve account, and explained how he calculated that amount. Discussion included what line item(s) the proposed amount could be taken from and its impact.

**ITEM 4: To Review and Make Recommendations on the Following Proposed 2015 Departmental Budgets: (Cont.)**

**G) Fire Rescue (Cont.)**

**Michael Fogg moved to move \$10,640 from the Wages line item to the Reserve line item; Andrew Buckland seconded.**

The Selectmen further discussed the impact of this proposal on the Wages line item and any corresponding payroll line items.

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 ABSTAINED 1 MOTION CARRIED  
(Stephan Bunker)**

**Joshua Bell moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$401,513 for the 2015 Fire Rescue budget, which is an increase over 2014 of \$21,458, or 5.65%; Andrew Buckland seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 ABSTAINED 1 MOTION CARRIED  
(Stephan Bunker)**

**H) Parks and Recreation**

**Stephan Bunker moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$152,740 for the 2015 Parks and Recreation budget, which is a decrease from 2014 of \$262, or - 0.17%; Joshua Bell seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**I) Community Center**

Joshua Bell asked for clarification of the increase in the Assistant Director's wages. Richard Davis explained that since his hire, the current Assistant Director has been paid considerably below the minimum wage for that position according to the Pay Plan. He is now proposing to increase the wages just to the minimum of the Pay Plan before the next Assistant Director is hired. Discussion included the timing of this increase, and the occasional updates and position synchronization to the Pay Plan.

**Michael Fogg moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$112,211 for the 2015 Community Center budget, which is an increase over 2014 of \$6,330, or 5.98%; Stephan Bunker seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 3 OPPOSED 2 MOTION CARRIED  
(Bell/Morgan)**



**ITEM 4: To Review and Make Recommendations on the Following Proposed 2015 Departmental Budgets: (Cont.)**

**M) Public Works Reserve**

**Ryan Morgan moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$5,000 for the 2015 Public Works Reserve budget, which is the same amount as budgeted in 2014; Stephan Bunker seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**N) Recycling**

**Stephan Bunker moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$72,138 for the 2015 Recycling budget, which is an increase over 2014 of \$1,690, or 2.40%; Ryan Morgan seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**O) Administration**

In response to Joshua Bell's inquiry as to the cause of the \$6,413 increase, Richard Davis stated that it pertains in large part to the Health Insurance line item.

**Michael Fogg moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$241,946 for the 2015 Administration budget, which is an increase over 2014 of \$6,413, or 2.72%; Andrew Buckland seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**P) Committees & Events**

**Stephan Bunker moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$6,800 for the 2015 Committees and Events budget, which is an increase over 2014 of \$300, or 4.62%; Michael Fogg seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**Q) Municipal Building**

**Ryan Morgan moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$87,951 for the 2015 Municipal Building budget, which is an increase over 2014 of \$6,530, or 8.02%; Stephan Bunker seconded.**

**ITEM 4: To Review and Make Recommendations on the Following Proposed 2015 Departmental Budgets: (Cont.)**

**Q) Municipal Building (Cont.)**

Discussion included: plans, of which there are none, for the Reserve account; the lack of totally expending the 2014 Wages line item but the 2015 request for that line item remains comparatively the same; and the reason for the increase in the Building and Housekeeping line item.

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**R) T.A.N.**

In response to Joshua Bell's inquiry as to why the request increased this year, Mr. Davis explained that the Treasurer was able to borrow from the Reserve account in 2014 but she most likely will be unable to do the same this year so she will have to get a short-term bank note.

**Stephan Bunker moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$5,000 for the 2015 T.A.N. budget, which is an increase over 2014 of \$2,000; Michael Fogg seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 OPPOSED 1 MOTION CARRIED  
(Joshua Bell)**

**S) Other Protections**

**Ryan Morgan moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$472,833 for the 2015 Other Protections budget, which is a decrease from 2014 of \$6,283, or -1.31%; Andrew Buckland seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**T) Debt Service**

**Ryan Morgan moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$155,170 for the 2015 Debt Service budget, which is a decrease from 2014 of \$3,243, or -2.05%; Joshua Bell seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 4: To Review and Make Recommendations on the Following Proposed 2015 Departmental Budgets: (Cont.)**

**U) Legal Reserve**

**Ryan Morgan moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$15,000 for the 2015 Legal Reserve budget, which is a decrease from 2014 of \$3,000, or -16.67%; Joshua Bell seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**V) ADA Reserve**

**Stephan Bunker moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$1,000 for the 2015 ADA Reserve budget, which is a decrease from 2014 of \$1,500; Joshua Bell seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**W) Transportation Advisory Committee**

**Ryan Morgan moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$-0- for the 2015 Transportation Advisory Committee budget; Stephan Bunker seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**X) Contracts / Public Services**

Discussion regarding the Farmington Public Library appropriation request included: the expending of its 2014 appropriation on other than what was budgeted for; increase in the Contractual Library Exchange; increase in oil consumption; the inclusion and increase of salary, health and dental insurance when this is not a Town department;

**Michael Fogg moved to recommend the amount of \$138,666 for the 2015 Farmington Public Library appropriation request; Ryan Morgan seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 OPPOSED 1 MOTION CARRIED  
(Stephan Bunker)**

Richard Davis commented that he feels that the Library Trustees and Board members will feel that they were treated very unfairly in not being given the opportunity to address the Selectmen's concerns and questions. The Selectmen felt that since it is a public meeting they had the same opportunity as anyone else who attended for the purpose of supporting a budget or appropriation request.

**ITEM 4: To Review and Make Recommendations on the Following Proposed 2015 Departmental Budgets: (Cont.)**

**X) Contracts / Public Services (Cont.)**

**Ryan Morgan moved to recommend the amount of \$900 for the 2015 Gay Cemetery appropriation request; Joshua Bell seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**Joshua Bell moved to recommend the amount of \$14,744 for the 2015 Franklin County Animal Shelter appropriation request; Ryan Morgan seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

The total for the Contracts / Public Services appropriations is \$154,310.

**ITEM 7: To Consider Municipal Membership in the Farmington Downtown Association**

Richard Davis explained that the Farmington Downtown Association (FDA) would like the Town to be a member and there is a possibility that the membership fee can be funded from the Franklin Printing TIF Reserve account. Mr. Davis reviewed an excerpt from the Franklin Printing TIF, as well as a memo dated January 5, 2015 from FDA member Gloria McGraw and FDA information. Mrs. McGraw was present and further explained the FDA request. She pointed out that the FDA is only asking that the Town be a member of this organization, not for any additional funding.

**Ryan Morgan moved to approve a \$50 fee for membership in the Farmington Downtown Association; Andrew Buckland seconded.**

Ryan Morgan explained that it is his feeling that membership in this Association further exhibits the Town's desire to be a "Business Friendly Community". Dennis O'Neil advocated his support of this membership.

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 OPPOSED 1 MOTION CARRIED  
(Joshua Bell)**

**ITEM 5: To Award the bid for Printing the 2014 Annual Report**

Richard Davis reviewed the bid tabulation and reported that Skowhegan Press is low bidder again this year at a cost of \$1,751.

**ITEM 5: To Award the bid for Printing the 2014 Annual Report (Cont.)**

**Stephan Bunker moved to award the bid for printing the 2014 Annual Report to Skowhegan Press at a cost of \$1,751; Joshua Bell seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 6: To Approve an Application for a License to Operate Beano/Bingo or a Game of Chance at the West Farmington Elks Lodge on March 15, 2015 for the Farmington Emblem Club #460**

Richard Davis reviewed the application.

**Ryan Morgan moved to approve an application for a License to Operate Beano/Bingo or a Game of Chance at the West Farmington Elks Lodge on March 15, 2015 for the Farmington Emblem Club #460; Stephan Bunker seconded.**

Richard Davis clarified for Joshua Bell that this is an annual event and must be approved by the Selectmen annually.

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

The Selectmen signed the application.

**ITEM 8: To Approve a *Resolution for Membership and Appointment of Voting Delegate Representative and Alternate* for the Maine Service Centers Coalition**

Richard Davis reviewed the letter from Maine Service Centers Coalition dated December 29, 2014. He stated that this is an annual Resolution, and the Selectmen have typically appointed him as the delegate, in which position he is willing to continue; but an alternate also needs to be appointed.

**Stephan Bunker moved to appoint Richard Davis and Joshua Bell as the Town of Farmington's delegate and alternate for the Maine Service Centers Coalition; Joshua Bell seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 9: To Transfer \$21,092.60 from the Unassigned Fund Balance to cover Overdrafts of \$2,578.97 in the General Assistance Account and \$18,513.63 in the Public Works Road Capital Improvements Account, pursuant to Article Twenty-Fourth of the March 24, 2014 Annual Town Meeting**

Richard Davis explained that the General Assistance amount increased slightly since he first notified the Selectmen of these overdrafts a few meetings ago, but the Public Works Road Capital Improvements amount remained the same.

**Ryan Morgan moved to approve a transfer of \$21,092.60 from the Unassigned Fund Balance to cover overdrafts of \$2,578.97 in the General Assistance account and \$18,513.63 in the Public Works Road Capital Improvements account, pursuant to Article Twenty-Fourth of the March 24, 2014 Annual Town Meeting; Stephan Bunker seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 10: To Authorize an Overdraft of \$166,248.37 in the Public Works Department Account pursuant to 23 M.R.S. § 2705, said Overdraft to be Ratified at the March 23, 2015 Annual Town Meeting**

Richard Davis explained that this is the final figure, and since it is 15.2% over it must be ratified at the annual Town Meeting.

**Stephan Bunker moved to authorize an overdraft of \$166,248.37 in the Public Works Department account pursuant to 23 M.R.S. § 2705, said overdraft to be ratified at the March 23, 2015 Annual Town Meeting; Ryan Morgan seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 11: To Approve the Minutes of December 16 and 23, 2014 and January 6 and 13, 2015**

**Joshua Bell moved to approve the minutes of December 16 and 23, 2014 and January 6 and 13, 2015; Andrew Buckland seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**



Minutes respectfully submitted by Linda H. Grant.

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Stephan M. Bunker – Secretary